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## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

COUNTRY USSR (Latvian SSR) REPORT [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Naval Vessels and Port Facilities in Ventspils DATE DISTR. 16 September 1957

NO. PAGES 2

REQUIREMENT NO. [REDACTED]

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED]

PLACE & DATE ACQ. [REDACTED] # 242 25X1

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. Five reports presenting detailed information on naval vessels and port facilities in Ventspils [REDACTED] 25X1

All of these reports deal [REDACTED] 25X1

[REDACTED] separately with the first (A) giving a general summary and the others giving details on some special aspect mentioned generally in the first. Each of them has its own port plan with annotations keyed to the text, [REDACTED] 25X1

Attachment A: A seven-page general report covering naval vessels observed, radar and radio installations, shipyard facilities, harbor installations, and economic information. This report is accompanied by a port plan and legend indicating 65 features observed in Ventspils, [REDACTED] 25X1

Attachment B: A two-page report presenting a detailed description of the MEB. [REDACTED] noted in the general report, Attachment A. 25X1

Attachment C: A two-page detailed description of the submarine, [REDACTED] mentioned in Attachment A. 25X1

Attachment D: A two-page detailed description of four KRONSHADT-class subchasers, [REDACTED] mentioned in Attachment A. 25X1

Attachment E: A two-page detailed description of four minesweepers, [REDACTED] mentioned in Attachment A. 25X1

S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	E	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC						
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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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Att

25X1

A.  
Enclosures:

1. Sketch of targets, with accompanying index.



25X1

6. Sketch 5: wharf opposite point 6.

A. Naval vessels observed:

3 naval vessels moored

Moored alongside each other: a naval vessel  
 a Krohnstadt, and a minesweeper.

25X1

3 minesweepers of the same type, moored alongside each other at point 21.



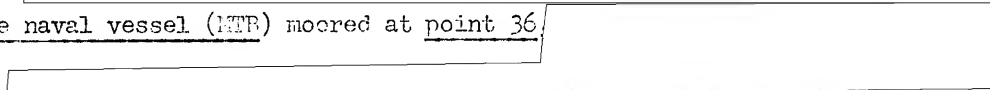
25X1

3 naval vessels (Krohnstadts) moored alongside each other at point 26.



25X1

One naval vessel (MTR) moored at point 36.



One submarine moored at point 37.



25X1

One naval tug, [redacted] Has a  
"cheese cover shaped radar antenna. [redacted]

25X1

One naval training vessel, moored [redacted] behind the naval tug [redacted]

25X1

One naval trawler, [redacted] This vessel bore no  
distinctive mark [redacted] Recognizable in big survey.

[redacted] this vessel was still equipped with a machine gun on  
the forecastle and others on the bridge wings. At the present occasion  
there was no armament present.

B. Remaining naval targets.

1. At the naval barracks [redacted] there was a military observation post  
[redacted] saw naval personnel in large numbers coming and  
going, in front of the barracks. [redacted]

25X1

C. Defense works.

1. Five bunkers [redacted] dug halfway into the ground.

25X1

2. One bunker used as an underground shelter [redacted]

25X1

D. Radar and radio stations and antennas.

1. For radio stations and antennas see Sketch 1 and target index

[redacted]

25X1

2. For radar antennas see [redacted] Sketch 4. The radar mast is  
about 20 meters high.

E. Dockyards.

1. Aside from a repair place for fishing vessels [redacted]

[redacted] no dockyards were observed.

25X1

Att [redacted]

25X1

F. Harbor installations.

1. Cranes.

- a. On the wharf opposite point 6 there were 6 diesel-electric gantry cranes with a capacity of from 3 to 5 tons. [redacted]

25X1

2. Buildings. See index and Sketch 1 [redacted]

3. Tugs. The Moriak and the Metalloerg respectively were observed.

See index and Sketch 1 [redacted]

25X1

4. For remaining targets see index and Sketch 1.

G. Nautical information.

1. The beaconage is in agreement with the sailing directions.

2. The hopper cutter suction dredge [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] was ~~was~~ gone.

Att 

25X1

I. Economic information.

1. The following materials were brought up by <sup>railway cars</sup> ~~by ship~~ and taken on by the ships: soda, potash, pyridine, and hydrogen peroxide. The loading was done by two teams of four men each; the work proceeded day and night. There were three women who served as tabulation clerks on shore.
2. On the wharf there were 4,000 tons of herring and 4,000 tons of fish oil from Norway.

Target Index for Sketch 1  (Ventspils Harbor).

25X1

1. Water tower. From point 6 (berth of observer's ship, bearing on 260 degrees).
2. Four sheds, measuring 65 x 30 meters each.
3. One shed, measuring 50 x 20 meters.
4. Berth of coaster Warnemuende (East German). This ship was taking on a cargo of pit props (mine props) which were piled up on the quay.
5. Berth of Russian freighter of 3,000 tons. Name not noted.
6.
7. Berth of Russian freighter of 6,000 tons. A cargo of sulphur was being loaded on this ship; it was brought up in railway cars.
8. Shed of three stories. Middle section is lower (4 meters high).
9. Brick office building, measuring 3 x 3 meters.
10. Shed of the same type as at point 8.
11. Shed, measuring 50 x 20 x 4 meters.
12. Shed, measuring 100 x 20 x 4 meters.

25X1

Att [REDACTED]

25X1

13. Control station. When the crew members went on shore leave their passes were checked here.
14. Machine shop for the maintenance, repair, and overhauling of the equipment used in the harbor. Two buildings measuring 100 x 40 x 5 meters.
15. Foundation. A new structure. A new shed is presumably being constructed here. Measurements: 100 x 3 meters.
16. Four lighters of the T-31 type. Three lighters of the same type were anchored [REDACTED]. Length of hull about 60 meters. Presumably they were not self-propelled, because they were brought in by tugs.
17. Orthodox Church. From point 6 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
18. Berth of three naval vessels. Naval vessel [REDACTED]  
a Krohnstadt, and a minesweeper. [REDACTED]  
naval vessels see separate report.
19. Factory.
20. Smokestack.
21. Berth of three naval vessels (minesweepers).  
[REDACTED] For detailed description see separate report.
22. Berth of old freighter with floating tank.
23. Berth of lighter, alongside old freighter [REDACTED] Behind this  
freighter there is a floating tank and a lighter equipped with a small crane.
24. Observation post on top of barracks, used by the navy. Observer  
saw a great deal of naval personnel coming and going.  
[REDACTED]
25. Barracks.

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

A.1

25X1

26. Berth of three naval vessels (Krohnstadtts).

25X1

27. Berth of [ ] freighter Rhodos. Moored by means of chain, in view  
of rock fragments.

25X1

28. Party building.

29. Alley leading to the city.

30. Berth of ferry boat. Passage on this ferry is free. For ferry  
route see Sketch 1.

25X1

31. Military observation post.

32. Buildings belonging to the citadel.

33. Two radio masts.

35. Citadel.

36. Berth of MTE,

37. Berth of submarine,

38. Building.

39. Berth of naval vessels,

40. Two small motorboats.

41. Berth of trawler.

42. Berth of three lighters.

One of the lighters

25X1

43. Harbor office building.

44. Radio mast.

45. Radio Mast.

46. Mast.

47. Beacon.

Att

25X1

48. Radio station.

25X1

49. Berth of Russian coaster, name Pko ...?

50. Berth of tug Mordak, alongside another tug. The Mordak is a  
harbor tug and also a pilot boat.

25X1

51. Berth of floating derrick,

52. Repair yard on shore.

53. Two-ton crane.

54. Building.

55. Building.

56. Berth of sea-going tug Metalloerg. Equipped with radar and radio  
~~communications~~ communications system.

25X1

57. Military observation post.

(see sketch)

58. Military observation post.59. Searchlight.60. Military observation post.61. Military sentry box.

62. Lighthouse.

63. Radio station.64. Radar mast.65. Bunkers.

A. Place, time, and activities.

1. The MTB was berthed at point 36 on sketch, the Town Pier.

2. [REDACTED]

25X1

B. Description of MTB



Att

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25X1



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1. Identification.

Att [ ]

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2. Silhouette.

No smokestack. The length of the hull was more than three times the length of the torpedo launching tube. There was a small pole-mast [ ] with a signal yard [ ] behind the bridge. The deck was approximately parallel with the surface of the water, and inclined slightly upward at the bow. The deck was about 1.80 meters above water level.

25X1

3. Armament.

A torpedo launching tube [ ], 10 meters long, was located on each side of the MTB. These torpedo launching tubes were permanently emplaced; the forward ends of these tubes were located at one-third the length of the hull, and pointed toward the bow. Behind each tube, there was a bracket [ ] for mounting a reserve torpedo.

25X1

Between the forward ends of the torpedo launching tubes, a machine gun was mounted on a cylinder-shaped emplacement [ ]

25X1

A similar emplacement [ ] was located at the stern.

25X1

4. Radar/Radio.

Behind the bridge, on port side, a hemispherical-shaped radar antenna [ ] was mounted on a collapsible steel frame, which was 4 meters high.

25X1

A circular-shaped antenna was located behind the radar antenna [ ]

A collapsible, circular-shaped antenna was located

25X1

on starboard side [ ] A spar antenna [ ] was

25X1

located forward, on port side of the bridge.

5. Particulars.

A white flag [ ] had a blue strip on the lower edge, and a red star with hammer-and-sicle.<sup>K</sup>

25X1

A searchlight [ ] was located on port side of the MTB.

25X1

The MTB was painted gray. The draft of the MTB was not observed.

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25X1

1. Originally berthed at point 37 on sketch 1, the submarine departed

in the direction of the open sea.

25X1

- 1 -

25X1

B. Description of Submarine. (Att See)

25X1

2. Silhouette.

a. Conning tower (point 1).

Height was approximately 4 meters, length twice the height, double bayonet-shaped; a railing (point 2) was located on the lower bayonet-shaped part.

The conning tower was closed at the top (point 3) by a lid, which could be removed. This was clearly noticeable by the dividing line above the portholes (point 4).

A water-deflector (point 5) was located half way up the conning tower. A direction finder (point 6) was located in front of the conning tower.

25X1

Two masts (point 8), were located, one each, on starboard and port side; each mast <sup>had guy</sup> ~~had guy~~ wires running to bow and stern.

A small pole-mast with [signal yard] was located between these two masts.

A brass rail (point 9) encircled the conning tower.

b. Hull.

About 8 meters from the bow, a manhole cover (point 12), 50 centimeters in diameter, was seen in open position. A telephone buoy (point 13) was located about 12 meters from the bow.

Att

A soot-edged exhaust (point 14), 20 centimeters in diameter, was located on port side about 30 meters from the bow.

25X1

An exhaust (point 15), also 20 centimeters in diameter, was located immediately behind the <sup>con</sup>ning tower, and reached into the water. The length of the hull was about 40 meters. The distance from the conning tower to bow, was approximately 20 meters, and the distance from the conning tower to stern, was approximately 12 meters.

### 3. Armament.



1. In front of the conning tower, there was a depression (point 10), which was surrounded by a railing.

25X1

2. At starboard and port side of the bow, two torpedo tubes (point 11), each about 2 meters in length and about 45 centimeters in diameter, were located at about 20 centimeters above water level.

### 4. Particulars.

1. A white flag (point 16) had a blue stripe on the lower edge, a red star on the side near the mast, and opposite this red star, a red hammer-and-sic<sup>K</sup>le emblem.

2.  an unusual number of guy wires (point 17) with turnbuckles, 

25X1

was clamped against the lower side of the submarine, or, that something was being carried along.

3. The submarine was painted gray.

Att

A hand-drawn sketch of a cross. A vertical line is intersected by a horizontal line. The letter 'N' is written at the top of the vertical line.

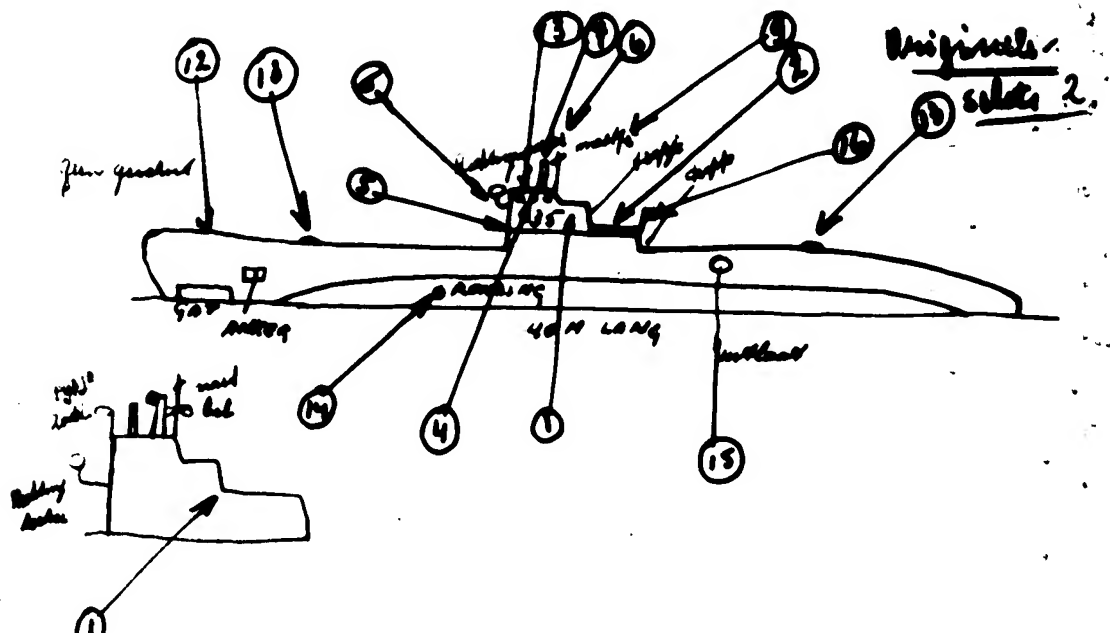
Natural Scale  $\frac{1}{1000}$

**Lutheran  
Cemetery**



(VENTSPILS)  
WINDAU.

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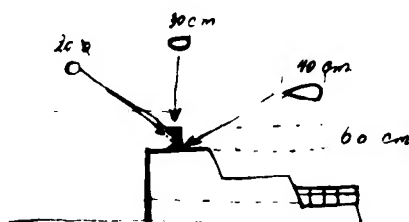
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Att

sheet 3

25X1



D A. Location, time and activities  
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1. A total of four "Krohnstadt"-type vessels were observed in the harbor of Ventpils, of which one vessel was berthed at point 18, and the remaining three vessels were lying along side each other at point 26.

Attach

3. [redacted] vessel [redacted] put to sea and did not return. Att [redacted]

25X1

B. Description of Naval Vessels [redacted]

2. Silhouette.

About midships, there was one smokestack [on these vessels], raked aft. The length of the hull was approximately 40 meters.

A mast was located aft of the bridge. A <sup>signal yard</sup> [redacted] was attached at the top of the mast. About one-fourth distance from the bow, a rather high bridge was located; this bridge was slightly higher than the smokestack.

3. Armament.

A 7-centimeter gun was mounted in the forward part of the ship.

Aft of the bridge, both on starboard and port side, a single barreled machinegun was mounted.

No torpedo-launching tubes were observed.

4. Radar.

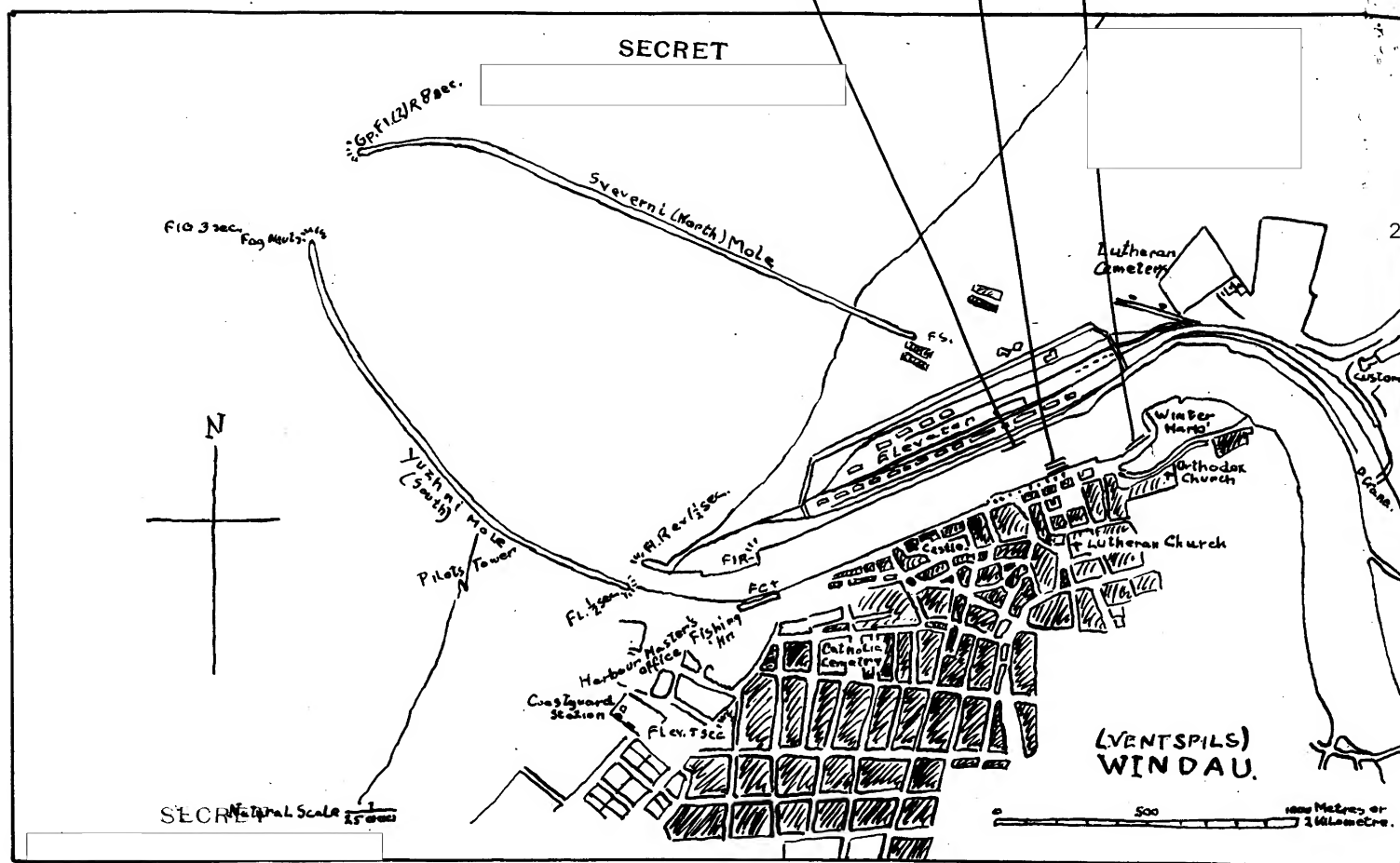
A small hemispherical-shaped radar antenna was located at the top of the mast.

5. Particulars.

1. A <sup>white</sup> [redacted] flag had a blue stripe on the lower edge, a red star on the side near the mast, and a red hammer-and-sickle emblem on the opposite side.

25X1

\_\_\_\_\_



A. Place, time, and activities.

1. [ ] four minesweepers, of identical type, were observed in the harbor of Ventapils. Three of these minesweepers were berthed along-side each other at point 21, and one minesweeper, at point 27, was sailing downstream, towing a target. [ ]

25X1

25X1

- 1 -

SECRET

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Att [redacted]

25X1

2. [redacted] a minesweeper [redacted]

sailed into the harbor, towing a target, and berthed at the Winter Harbor. [redacted] this minesweeper departed with the target toward the open sea, and was not seen again.

25X1

3. [redacted] gun fire was heard in the direction of Liepaja; however, nothing was seen.

25X1

B. Description of vessels [redacted]

25X1

2. Silhouette.

A smokestack, approximately  $3\frac{1}{2}$  meters high with a slightly raked cap, was located midships'.

The length of the hull was about 35 meters.

A mast was located at about one-third distance from the bow.

The vessel had a low bridge. The rear of the bridge was located about midships' at the break of the deck.

The vessels had a flat counter.

3. Armament.

No gun turrets were observed.

A 6-centimeter gun with open shield was mounted on the fore part of the ship. A similar gun was located behind the smokestack.

4. Radar was not observed.

5. Details

Davits were located on starboard and port side of the stern.

No paravanes were observed.

The vessels had twin screws (observed by means of the wake).

The searchlight was located on the bridge.



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